

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ruelle
Serial No.: Unknown
Filed: Herewith

Group Art Unit No.: Unknown
Examiner: Unknown

For: *Neisseria Meningitidis* Antigen

6/A
JM
5/10/02

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicant respectfully requests that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in this case before the calculation of fees and before examination of the subject application.

In the Claims:

Please delete the claims of the application as filed in the PCT and substitute therefor:

25. An isolated polypeptide comprising a member selected from the group consisting of
- (a) an amino acid sequence matching one of SEQ ID NOs:2 or 4;
 - (b) an immunogenic polypeptide comprising a fragment sequence of at least 15 amino acids that matches an aligned contiguous segment of one of SEQ ID NOs:2 or 4,

wherein the isolated polypeptide, when administered to a subject in a suitable composition which can include an adjuvant, or a suitable carrier coupled to the polypeptide, induces an antibody or T-cell immune response to a polypeptide having the sequence of one of SEQ ID NOs:2 or 4.

26. An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide of Claim 25 or the full complement to the isolated polynucleotide.

27. The isolated polypeptide of claim 25, wherein the polypeptide is according to (a).

28. An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide of Claim 27 or the full complement to the isolated polynucleotide.

29. The isolated polypeptide of claim 25, wherein the polypeptide is according to (b).